

a difference. It makes a difference. And so that's why I'm traveling the country, and that's why I came here. I'd like for you to contact your Congressman and contact your Senator and tell them to come on the side of the people, when it comes to what to do with your money. We have a fundamental choice, and the right choice is to stand on the side of the people.

And let me conclude by telling you, the tax policy's important, and there will be a lot of tax policy. And of course, good health policy's important, and keeping the peace is important. But there's nothing more important than remembering that the most important job you'll ever have, if you happen to be a mom or a dad, is to love your children with all your heart and all your soul.

I was reminded of that when I walked through and saw the pictures that many of the entrepreneurs here in the Merc had of their children—it's such a refreshing sight to know that priorities are kept all across America.

This is a fabulous nation we live in. It's a nation based upon great values. It's a nation based upon the principle that if you work hard, anybody, regardless of where you're from, can get ahead. But it's going to be made better when all of us understand that there are certain responsibilities in life. I have a responsibility as your President. And when I put my hand on the Bible, I swore to uphold that responsibility, and I will. And you have the responsibility to love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself. But it all starts with loving your children.

Thank you for letting me come by. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:27 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Scott Gordon, chairman, Chicago Mercantile Exchange; Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, IL; and Lt. Gov. Corinne Wood of Illinois.

Message on the Observance of Eid al-Adha

March 6, 2001

Warm greetings to Muslims across the United States as you celebrate the Eid al-Adha holiday and join in spirit with the mil-

lions gathered in Mecca to uphold the traditions of one of your most sacred feasts.

America was built on a strong spiritual foundation, and the celebration of faith is central to our lives. As you celebrate the annual Hajj, the fifth pillar of Islam, you honor the great sacrifice and devotion of Abraham as recognized by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. By educating others about your religious traditions, you enrich the lives of others in your local communities.

The variety of nations and cultures represented by those who travel to Mecca each year, and the varied ways in which Muslims contribute to American life across the United States, are powerful reminders that ethnic and racial differences need not divide us when we share common values and purposes. By building strong foundations of mutual respect, we can achieve peace and reconciliation in our world.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a joyous holiday celebration.

George W. Bush

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus

March 6, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period December 1, 2000–January 31, 2001. The previous submission covered events during October and November 2000.

The United Nations continued in its efforts to sustain the proximity talks that started in December 1999. The United States remains committed to the United Nations effort to find a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.